

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PRS-01
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 MMO-01 HA-05 EB-08 TRSE-00
ACDA-12 AF-10 IO-13 CU-04 OES-07 /110 W
-----129943 121727Z /43
R 121427Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0675

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 CARACAS 0285

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AMGT, PFOR, VE, US
SUBJECT: US GOALS AND OBJECTIVES IN VENEZUELA

REF: (A) 77 STATE 291277 (B) 77 STATE 295631

1. THE EMBASSY HAS REVIEWED CAREFULLY THE GOALS
AND OBJECTIVES LISTED IN REF (B) AND REVISED THEM SOMEWHAT TO
REFLECT THE LATEST STATE OF PLAY AND
EMPHASIS. THE US GOALS AND OBJECTIVES IN VENEZUELA AS SEEN BY THE
COUNTRY TEAM AT THIS TIME ARE AS FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN TEXT.

I. STRENGTHENED RESPECT FOR BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY

-- ENCOURAGE VENEZUELAN LEADERSHIP TO PRESS OTHER COUNTRIES
TO SIGN AND RATIFY THE AMERICAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN
RIGHTS AND SUPPORT THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

-- COOPERATE WITH VENEZUELA TO STRENGTHEN THE UN HUMAN
RIGHTS MACHINERY. (NOTE: THIS WAS CHANGED FROM THE
FORMULATION IN REF B BECAUSE THE PROPOSAL FOR A UN
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONER APPEARS TO BE DEAD).

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--COOPERATE WITH AND ENCOURAGE VENEZUELA IN ANY ACTIONS TO
STRENGTHEN ITS OWN DEMOCRACY AND ENCOURAGE DEMOCRATIC
TENDICIES IN THE HEMISHPERE. US SUPPORT FOR FEEDOM
OF THE PRESS IS ESSENTIAL TO THIS EFFORT.

II. INCREASED COOPERATION IN ENERGY-RELATED MATTERS

--INITIATE A DIALOGUE ON ENERGY IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRESIDENT CARTER'S REQUEST OF PRESIDENT PEREZ THAT THEIR RESPECTIVE ENERGY MINISTERS (HERNANDEZ-SCHLESINGER) MEET. THIS DIALOGUE MIGHT INCLUDE DISCUSSION OF COOPERATION IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATE ENERGY SOURCES.

-- SEEK TO EXPAND GOV'S EXISTING APPRECIATION OF THE ADVERSE IMPACT HIGH OIL PRICES HAVE ON ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS IN LDC'S BY INCREASING IMPORT COSTS, COMPOUNDING WORLD TRADE PROBLEMS AND STIMULATING PROTECTIONIST TENDENCIES.

--SEEK VENEZUELAN SUPPORT FOR AN EFFECTIVE DIALOGUE ON ENERGY-RELATED MATTERS IN THE NORTH-SOUTH CONTEXT.

--CONVEY AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL OUR CONTINUED CONCERN THAT PETROLEUM PRICES BE MAINTAINED AT AREASONABLE LEVEL AND THAT ADEQUATE SUPPLIES BE MADE AVAILABLE.

--ENCOURAGE PROMPT AND EQUITABLE SETTLEEMTN OF THE CLAIMS STILL PENDING AGAINST US FIRMS WHICH WERE AFFECTED BY THE OIL INDUSTRY NATIONALIZATION.

III. NON-PROLIFERATION AND ARMS CONTROL

--ENCOURAGE VENEZUELAN COMPLIANCE WITH ITS NPT SAFEGUARDS OBLIGATIONS AS WELL AS ITS CONTINUED COOPERATION
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IN CURBING THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITIES BY URGING THE ADHERENCE OF REMAINING NON-SIGNATORIES TO THE TLAELOLCO AND NON-PROLIFERATION TREATIES.

--COOPERATE WITH AND ENCOURAGE VENEZUELA IN ITS EFFORTS TO CURB CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS, PARTICULARLY IN THE LATIN AMERICAN CONTEXT.

IV. STIMULATION OF INCREASED VENEZUELAN COOPERATION ON ALL INTER-NATIONAL ISSUES.

--DEVELOP A CONTINUING DIALOGUE WITH PRESIDENT PEREZ AND OTHER KEY VENEZUELAN OFFICIALS ON MULTILATERAL ECONOMIC AND TRADE ISSUES, BASED ON AN INCREASED FLOW OF NECESSARY INFORMATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

--ENCOURAGE VENEZUELA TO PLAY A MORE MODERATE AND CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN DEFINING AND NEGOTIATING ECONOMIC ISSUES IN THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE INDUSTRIALIZED AND DEVELOPING WORLD.

--CONSULT WITH VENEZUELA WITH A VIEW TO ENCOURAGEING A MORE COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP ON MULTILATERAL AND INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL

ISSUES.

--INFORM PRESIDENT PEREZ OF DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND
ENCOURAGE HIS CONSULATION WITH FRONT-LINE STATE REPRESENTATIVES.

--CONSULT FREQUENTLY AND FRANKLY WITH VENEZUELA ON LOS ISSUES SINCE
VENEZUELA IS AN IMPORTANT AND INFLUENTIAL PARTICIPANT IN THOSE
NEGOTIATIONS.

--ENCOURAGE VENEZUELAN COOPERATION IN ACHIEVING RAPIDLY AN ILLICIT
PAYMENTS TREATY.

--WITHIN THE UN COOPERATE AND ENCOURAGE VENEZUELA IN SUPPORTING
CONSTRUCTIVE ANTI-TERRORIST MEASURES. BILATERALLY, EXCHANGE INFORM-
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ACTION ON TERRORISM AS APPROPRIATE.

--ENCOURAGE VENEZUELA TO COOPERATE WITH US IN ENCOURAGING A
REVITALIZATION OF THE OAS AND ITS VARIOUS MECHANISMS AND RELATED
ORGANS.

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PRS-01
INT-05 MMO-01 HA-05 EB-08 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 AF-10
IO-13 CU-04 OES-07 /108 W
-----129963 121726Z /43

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
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S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 CARACAS 0285

V. ENCOURAGEMENT OF VENEZUELA'S INTEREST IN PLAYING AN
ACTIVE REGIONAL ROLE

--ENCOURAGE VENEZUELA COOPERATION IN REGIONAL CARIBBENA
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND STRESS INCREASED CONTACT BETWEEN VENEZUELA

AND THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING CARIBBEAN.

--ENCOURAGE PRESIDENT PEREZ'S MEDIATING ROLE IN RELIEVING
CHILE, PERU, BOLIVIA TENSIONS.

--CONSULT WITH PRESIDENT PEREZ ON THE BELIZE INDEPENDENCE PROBLEM
AND ENCOURAGE HIM, AS APPROPRIATE, TO USE HIS GOOD OFFICES.

VI. MAINTENANCE OF GOOD, COOPERATIVE, BILATERAL WORKING RELATIONS

--CONSULT FREQUENTLY WITH PRESIDENT PEREZ AND THE GOV ON A WIDE
VARIETY OF ISSUES TO STRESS INTERNATIONALLY THAT THIS IS A
GOVERNMENT WHICH SHARES OUR COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY
.

--MAINTAIN A COOPERATIVE, FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE VEN-
EZUELAN ARMED FORCES AS A MEANS OF INFLUENCING AN IMPORTANT
INSTITUTIONAL ACTOR IN VENEZUELAN SOCIETY.

--PRESERVE THE US AS THE PREDOMINANT FOREIGN MILITARY INFLUENCE
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IN VENEZUELA.

--EXPEDITE AND PROMOTE A WIDE RANGE OF EXCHANGES IN THE EDUCATIONAL
FIELD.

--PROMOTE CULTURAL CONTACTS AND EXCHANGES IN THE FINE ARTS FIELD.

-- TRY TO REDUCE OR ELIMINATE COMMUNICATIONS TENSIONS THROUGH
JUDICIOUS USE OF THE AVAILABLE TOOLS OF PUBLIC DIPLOMACY.

--NEGOTIATE A SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT AND FOSTER GREATER
INTERCHANGE BETWEEN US SUPPLIERS OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AND VENEZ-
UELAN END -USERS.

VII. ACHIEVE TRADE BALANCE WITH VENEZUELA

--SINCE VENEZUELA IS WEALTHY, IMPORTS A WIDE RANGE OF PRODUCTS,
AND HAS A POSITIVE TRADE BALANCE WITH THE US, ENCOURAGE MORE
PURCHASES FROM THE US.

--REMIND THE GOV OF USG INTEREST IN THE EFFORTS OF
US BUSINESS TO PARTICIPATE IN INDUSTRIAL, INFRASTRUCTURE AND OTHER
PROJECTS ARISING FROM VENEZUELAN DEVELOPMENT. END TEXT.
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